

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 HA-05 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5383
INFO AMEMBASSY LILONGWE PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, PDIP, OVIP, MI (BANDA, H. KAMUZU)
SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS: AUSTIN MBISA

REF: SMITH (AF/E)-FRIEDMAN TELCON, APRIL 20

SUMMARY: ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRESIDENT BANDA, NGWIRI DECLINED TO PROVIDE WRITTEN STATEMENT ON MBISA CASE. HE REITERATED WILLINGNESS, HOWEVER, TO EXPLAIN CIRCUMSTANCES ORALLY TO DEPARTMENT AND/OR SENATOR BAYH'S OFFICE. HE WILL ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON APRIL 25 WITH ORAL MESSAGE FROM BANDA. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBOFF CONVEYED TO NGWIRI APRIL 21 DEPARTMENT'S REQUEST (REF TELCON) THAT HE PROVIDE GOM WRITTEN STATEMENT ON MBISA CASE FOR TRANSMISSION TO SENATOR BAYH, IN LIEU OF DEPARTMENT PREPARING A PAPER BASED ON SEVERAL DIFFERENT REPORTS BY USG OFFICIALS OF DISCUSSIONS ON SUBJECT WITH NGWIRI AND TEMBO. NGWIRI READILY AGREED TO THIS REQUEST, SAID HE WOULD CONSULT WITH APPROPRIATE COLLEAGUES AND PREPARE A STATEMENT WHICH HE WOULD HAVE WITH HIM WHEN HE ARRIVED IN WASHINGTON.

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2. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION, HE SAID HIS RESPONSE TO OUR REQUEST WAS NOW CHANGED ON DIRECT INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRESIDENT BANDA. SINCE MBISA WAS A MALAWI NATIONAL AND HIS DEATH WAS A MATTER OF CONCERN PRIMARILY TO GOM, "IT WOULD NOT BE RIGHT" FOR GOM TO PRESENT A WRITTEN REPORT. NGWIRI REMAINED WILLING, HOWEVER, TO EXPLAIN THE CIRCUM-

STANCES ORALLY TO WHOEVER WAS DEALING WITH THE MATTER IN DEPARTMENT AND/OR SENATOR BAYH'S OFFICE. HE ALSO SAID HE WOULD HAVE AN ORAL MESSAGE ON THE SUBJECT FROM PRESIDENT BANDA FOR THE DEPARTMENT AND THE SENATOR.

3. NGWIRI ARRIVES IN WASHINGTON ON APRIL 25 AT ABOUT 3:00 P.M. HE WILL BE STAYING AT HOTEL MAYFLOWER. WE GAVE HIM NAME AND PHONE NUMBER OF PETER SMITH IN AF/E AS POINT OF CONTACT. NGWIRI SAID HE WOULD TELEPHONE SMITH AFTER HIS ARRIVAL (BUT WE SUGGEST SMITH TAKE INITIATIVE AND LEAVE MESSAGE FOR HIM AT HOTEL).

4. NGWIRI ASKED US (A) TO INFORM AMBASSADOR STEVENSON OF FOREGOING AND (B) TO INQUIRE WHETHER THERE WERE ANY DEVELOPMENTS RE APPOINTMENTS IN WASHINGTON FOR PRESIDENT BANDA.

STREATOR

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NNN

Message Attributes

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